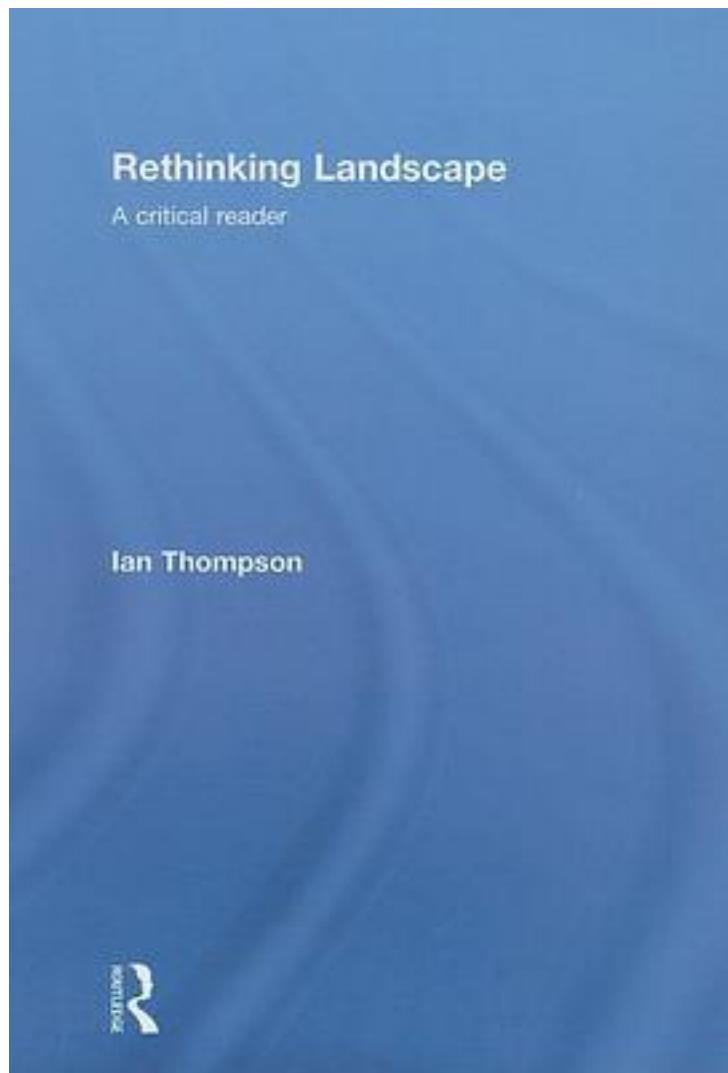


Rethinking Landscape



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'The unexamined life is not worth living' - Socrates. Our landscapes have never failed to entice and capture the imagination of writers, painters and philosophers - and in turn their work has influenced our landscapes for centuries. In this carefully selected collection of readings and commentary Ian Thompson expertly guides you through the aesthetic, social, cultural and environmental foundations of our thinking about landscape, and explores the key writings which shaped the field in its emergence and maturity. If you are to appreciate landscape theory, you first have to understand that current thinking is built on the theory of the past. There is no such thing as 'dead theory' in the study of landscape, simply theory waiting to come back into life.

"Rethinking Landscape" provokes thought and discussion. It does not provide answers, and will not conclude with an infallible theory of landscape - there is of course no such thing. But with a range of readings from Vitruvius to Jellicoe, from Burke to Berlin to Berleant, from the study of the Picturesque to Phenomenology, every reader will find something here to set them thinking; and thinking is the root of all invention.

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